LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT BILLS

(1) The Cochin Verumpattamdars' Bill—*(cont.)*

Mr. President: The discussion of the Verumpattamdars' Bill will be resumed.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Sir, yesterday the Hon'ble member for Chittur-Tattamangalam said that the *Tharikuttu* is a loose term thereby showing the colossal ignorance of what the word means. *Tharikuttu* came into existence in this way. If a man wanted a piece of land for building a house, he goes to the *jenmi* and requests him to give him a land. After some consultation the *jenmi* and the tenant go to the place, select a place, demark it. The *jenmi* takes the *thari* (live-stake) and plants it first in the north-eastern corner and allows the tenant to completely fence it. Hence the name *tharikuttu*. This right is called *tharikuttu avakasom*. It is a very definite term pregnant with meaning.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nemmara):* Sir, if you will allow me to explain, I am afraid my Hon'ble friend has not followed my speech yesterday. I know very well the full significance of the term *tharikuttu*. My point was there are owners of *kutiyiruppu*, whose rights have not been specified by any registered document though they are in actual possession of the same.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* That clearly shows your ignorance.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nemmara):* The House is to decide who is ignorant and who is in full possession of facts. Anyway, it will be well if the term is more precisely defined and not merely mentioned if the Government means to do real benefit to both parties.

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Offg. Diwan Peishkar):* From the speeches of the Hon'ble members who have taken part in the discussion, it has appeared that the general principles underlying the Bill have been accepted by the House. There are differences of opinion regarding certain details. The Bill is to go to a Select committee. The points raised by the Hon'ble members will be placed before the Committee and they will be considered there. I do not think that at this stage any detailed reply will be necessary. With these words, I pray that the motion be carried.

The motion that the Cochin Verumpattamdars' Bill be read in Council was put and carried

Secretary to the Council: The title of the Bill is "The Cochin Verumpattamdars' Bill".

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Offg. Diwan Peishkar):* I move that the Bill may be referred to a Select committee consisting of the following members.—The Advocate General, the Legal Remembrancer, Mr. K. Ashtamoorthy Nambudiripad, Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon, Mr. V. J. Mathai, Mr. T. P. Poulose and Mr. P. Govinda Menon and the Mover.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* The Advocate-General cannot vote since he is not a member of the Council. He has a special right to address the Council. He has a special right to be included in the Committee when the Government wants. When he is so nominated to a committee he cannot record the vote. Therefore the Legal Remembrancer also has been nominated. There will be only 7 votes. When the Advocate-General is renominated as a Member of the Council the Legal Remembrancer will be retired.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Are we to take it that the Advocate-General will not be a member of the Council hereafter?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* When he is renominated he will become a member of the Council. The Legal Remembrancer will then be retired.

Motion put and carried

Mr. President: I nominate the Advocate-General as the Chairman. I give the committee 2 months' time for the submission of the report.

(2) The Cochin Port Roads Control Bill

Mr. N. S. Radhakrishna Sarma *(Legal Remembrancer):* I move that The Cochin Port Roads Control Bill be read in Council.

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Offg. Commissioner of Excise):* I second it.

Mr. N. S. Radhakrishna Sarma *(Legal Remembrancer):* The Bill authorises the levy of fees on carriages and carts using the Port Roads north of the Mattancheri Halt Station in the Willingdon Island. The Bill also provides that the fees shall be collected by such persons as may be authorised by Government and the fees are to be credited to the Cochin Port Fund. The other provisions in the Bill are purely procedural and are mainly adaptations from the Ferries and Tolls Act and the Cochin Municipal Act.

The Port Trust Act, under which a Port administration is usually carried on a provision authorising the Port Authorities to levy such fees is generally found. Section 43

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